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a liquid biodegradable oligomeric ester of at least one hydrocarboxylic acid and a solid biodegradable polymeric ester of at least one hydrocarboxylic acid, said solid biodegradable polymer having a molecular weight that is greater than that of said liquid biodegradable oligomer.

REMARKS

This is a preliminary amendment of the English translation of the specification, claims and abstract of the U.S. National Stage Application corresponding to PCT/DE 00/00444.

All the original claims 1 to 13 filed in the U.S. have been canceled and have been replaced by new claims 14 to 28. New claims 14 to 28 include the subject matter of the amended claims of October 18, 2000 in the International Application. However claims 14 to 28 have been drafted to better conform to the rules for claims in U.S. Patent Practice, while still describing the same invention as in the amended claims. Additional claims resulted because wording such as "especially" or "preferably" which results in claims of indefinite scope has not been used; instead additional dependent claims were drafted.

A replacement abstract was also provided and standard section headings recommend by U.S. Patent Office Rules were inserted in the specification.

Fig. 1 appeared to be missing and Fig. 2 had German wording on it. Please accept the accompanying replacement figures of Figs. 1 and 2, which have English wording. Approval of the changes in the drawings is respectfully requested.

APPENDIX SHOWING CHANGES IN THE ABSTRACT

Underlining shows additions; brackets show deletion

[Abstract of the Disclosure]ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A biodegradable, injectable oligomer-polymer composition is described, which consists of a combination of at least two biologically degradable inert materials and at least one biologically active ingredient. [

] The inventive, oligomer-polymer composition coagulates when injected into the body of a mammal and forms an implant, from which the biologically active ingredient is released. The rate of release can be adjusted by controlling the type and amount of the ingredients of the oligomer-polymer composition [selected].

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawing be further amended or corrected in formal respects to put this case in condition for final allowance, then it is requested that such amendments or corrections be carried out by Examiner's Amendment and the case passed to issue. Any costs involved should be charged to the deposit account of the undersigned (No. 19-4675). Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing the case to allowance, he or she is invited to telephone the undersigned at 1-631-549 4700.

In view of the foregoing, favorable allowance is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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